

- 1 In the past 15 years the government has poured millions of pounds into promoting sport to try to increase adult participation. The results show no lasting effect. A survey showed that unless children 'catch the sport habit' between the ages of seven and fourteen years they are unlikely to participate in sport as an adult, and that the sports they adopt as children are likely to be the sports they play as adults. Schools need and should be given money to give children an interest in sport. Spending money trying to persuade adults to take up sport is like locking the stable door after the horse has bolted.

Which one of the following best expresses the conclusion of the argument in the passage above?

- A If people do not gain an interest in sport when they are young they never will.
- B The government has wasted millions of pounds promoting sport to adults.
- C The government should give funds to schools to help children catch the sport habit.
- D Schools need more time in the curriculum to promote sport.
- E The sports children adopt will determine what they play as adults.

- 3 Sales of printed books are steadily declining, with sales dropping to a seven-year low in 2011. Independent bookshops are closing all over the country and chain bookstores are likely to be hit next. Sales of e-books, meanwhile, are booming, with many predicting that 50 per cent of all books sold within 10 years will be digital downloads. Anecdotal evidence suggests that people enjoy the convenience of digital media. E-books have triumphed: they have led readers away from traditional forms of print to a digital world.

Which one of the following is a flaw in the above argument?

- A It bases its conclusion on predictions of future sales rather than hard evidence.
- B It ignores the advantages that e-books have over printed books.
- C It assumes that e-books have not attracted new readers.
- D By focussing on the closure of bookshops it ignores the creation of new electronic markets.
- E It cites anecdotal evidence.

- 10** During the Industrial Revolution, savvy entrepreneurs realised canals were a cost-effective, efficient way to move goods around the country. Gradually, however, canal carriage was replaced with other modes of transportation that were faster and cheaper. In twenty-first century Britain, most businesses choose to use road haulage as a means of transportation. With the rise in fuel costs and introduction of 'low emission' zones, road haulage is now becoming less practical and economical. As the roads grind to a halt, it will not be long before the canals once again become the backbone of goods transportation.

Which one of the following is the best statement of the flaw in the above argument?

- A** Canal transport is unlikely to be as fast as road haulage.
- B** Canals are not as convenient as the road network.
- C** It may be possible to make road haulage cheaper.
- D** It may be very expensive to re-open the disused canals.
- E** Canals may not be the only alternative to road haulage.

- 11 The presence of an ethical symbol, such as 'right' or 'wrong', in a proposition adds nothing to its factual content. If I say to someone, 'You acted wrongly in stealing that money', I am not stating anything more than if I had simply said, 'You stole that money'. In adding that this action is wrong I am not making any further statement about it. I am simply evincing moral disapproval. It is as if I had said, 'You stole that money' in a tone of horror, or written it with exclamation marks after it. The tone, or exclamation mark, adds nothing to the literal meaning of the sentence. It merely serves to show that the expression is attended by certain feelings in the speaker.

Which one of the following best expresses the main conclusion of the above argument?

- A Adding to a statement the words 'right' or 'wrong' does not alter its factual content.
- B 'You acted wrongly in stealing that money' just means 'you stole that money'.
- C When somebody states that something is wrong, they are making a statement of fact.
- D How people feel about an action is not relevant to the issue of whether it is right or wrong.
- E Saying that something is right or wrong is just a way of showing disapproval.

- 21 The Government are transferring the cost of a university education from the state to the student. This is described as a reform which will put universities' finance on a sustainable footing with more freedom and less bureaucracy. In addition it will lead to a greater choice for students with a focus on high quality teaching. The rise in tuition fees to £9,000 per year, making the cost of a three-year degree £27,000, should not be considered as too high. After all, the cost of a Mercedes Benz B-Class Sports Model is about the same price on the road as a three-year degree. This should put the rise in tuition fees into perspective and we can conclude that the tuition fees are very reasonable.

Which one of the following is the best statement of the flaw in this argument?

- A A university education is worth more than a car.
- B The cost of a car is not relevant.
- C Transferring the cost from the state to the student is not fair.
- D There is no evidence that students will have greater choice.
- E Universities will have to raise the fees in future.

- 27** We need to find solutions to the problem of high levels of carbon dioxide emissions. A number of solutions are being proposed but one of the most promising is that of using willow trees as a fuel for generating electricity. There are many environmental advantages in using willow. Burning wood has the environmental advantage that in doing so one releases into the atmosphere only as much carbon dioxide as the trees themselves absorbed. In addition, plantations of willows will not only support the insects on which songbirds feed, but also, being trees that thrive in wet areas, they will help to conserve our threatened wetlands. Other countries, such as Sweden, have already recognised the advantages of using willow for fuel. We should follow their example.

Which one of the following best expresses the main conclusion of the argument above?

- A** We need to solve the problem of the high rate of carbon dioxide emissions.
- B** We should use willow trees as a means of generating electricity.
- C** Using willow as a fuel will reduce the level of carbon dioxide emissions.
- D** Planting willows on a large scale will help conserve our wildlife.
- E** There are many environmental advantages in using willow trees for fuel.